



Activities Calendar

December, 2004 — May, 2005

Highlights

Boat Trips

Daily

Guided glass bottom boat tours, snorkeling trips and scuba diving trips are all great ways to experience Biscayne. Weekend Sunset Cruises, too! *Details on page 2.*

Ranger's Choice

Daily at 2:30 p.m.

from December 26 – April 23

Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, Sunday
from April 24 – July 1

From porch talks to short walks, learn about Biscayne's diverse resources with a park ranger. Programs range from 20 minutes to an hour. Check at the visitor center information desk for the day's topic and location.

Gallery Exhibits

Ongoing

Artists have always played a crucial role in increasing awareness and inspiring stewardship of National Parks. Changing exhibits in our visitor center gallery highlight the work of contemporary artists who continue that long tradition. *See page 4 for more information.*

Family Fun Fests

First Sunday of Every Month

Three full hours of fun for kids and kids-at-heart! Each month features a different theme with lots of hands-on activities. Complete them all and you'll earn a special button! All activities take place at the Dante Fascell Visitor Center. Sponsored in part by the Captain Bob Lewis Boat Center Yamaha Billfish Challenge. *Check page 3 for all the details.*

Island Excursions

Sunday Afternoons

How does an afternoon on an idyllic subtropical island sound? Take a leisurely stroll on Elliott Key or Boca Chita Key, Biscayne National Park's two most popular islands. *Start planning your trip on page 2.*

Bayside Concert

March 20

Bring your blankets or lawn chairs and a picnic lunch to enjoy an afternoon of music by the bay. *All the details are on page 4.*

Discovery Series

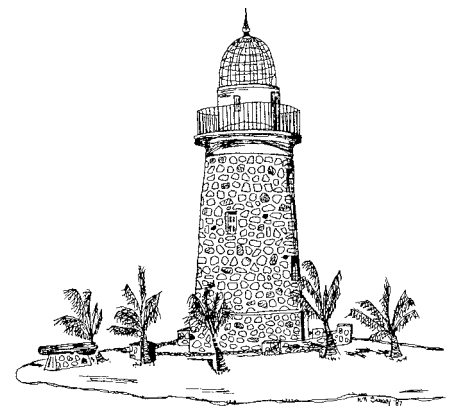
Second Wednesdays, January - April

Biscayne National Park is more than just a great place to fish and dive. Discover a few of our hidden resources in this free adult lecture series hosted by the Coconut Grove Sailing Club, 2990 South Bayshore Drive. *Look on page 3 to learn more.*

Canoe and Kayak Trips

Second and Fourth Saturday of
Every Month, January 8 - April 23

Discover the wonders of the mangrove shoreline on a leisurely two-hour guided paddle. *Learn more on page 4.*



Programs and prices subject to change without notice. For last-minute updates visit www.nps.gov/bisc/ then click on Activities Calendar.

Boat Trips

Glass Bottom Boat Trips

10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Daily

Visiting the reefs and islands of Biscayne National Park is a highlight of any visit. Windy conditions will allow you to explore the Florida Keys on foot with less annoyance from insects, while calm conditions afford an opportunity to see the spectacular world of the coral reef. Fees are \$24.45 for adults, \$19.45 for seniors, and \$16.45 for kids under 12. Six passenger minimum.

Snorkeling Trip

1:15 to 4:30 p.m. Daily

One of the best ways to appreciate the beauty of the park is by snorkeling the seagrass beds and mangroves of Biscayne Bay or on the coral reefs offshore. Fees are \$35 per person, including equipment rental. Six passenger minimum.

Scuba Diving

8:30 a.m. Saturdays and Sundays

Certified divers can discover the wonder and pristine beauty of South Florida's living coral reefs. A two-tank dive is \$54. Fee includes weights, but additional equipment rental is extra. Six passenger minimum.

Boat Trips

(continued)

Sunset Cruises

Saturdays and Sundays only
through April 3

Pinks, oranges, reds and purples — what a way to end a day! A relaxing, 2-hour cruise on Biscayne Bay to view the sunset is often accompanied by birds moving to their evening roosts, and even an occasional dolphin or manatee sighting. Fees are \$14.95 for all seats. Six passenger minimum. Departure times vary — call 305-230-1100 for details.

National Park Week Boat Trips

10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
April 17 – 23

From Yellowstone and the Grand Canyon to Independence Hall and the Statue of Liberty, national parks each tell a part of the American Story. Miami-Dade County has the honor of being the only county in the nation with two national parks. Celebrate National Park Week at Miami's "other" national treasure with special prices on ranger-guided boat trips to the coral reef or northern Keys. All seats are \$16.45, but space is limited.

Island Excursions

Boca Chita Key:

Millionaire's Retreat

Second and Fourth Sunday
of Every Month
1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

A former hideaway for the rich and famous in the early 1900s, Boca Chita is now Biscayne National Park's most popular island. Take a leisurely stroll past the historic lighthouse, walls and pavilion. Boat fees are \$24.45 for adults, \$19.45 for seniors and \$16.45 for kids under 12.

Elliott Key: Island Dreaming

First and Third Sunday
of Every Month
1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Covered by a tropical hardwood forest, Elliott Key offers visitors an opportunity to see the Florida Keys the way they used to be, and get a glimpse into the lives of the people who made this island their home. Boat fees are \$24.45 for adults, \$19.45 for seniors and \$16.45 for kids under 12.

Boat Tour Reservations

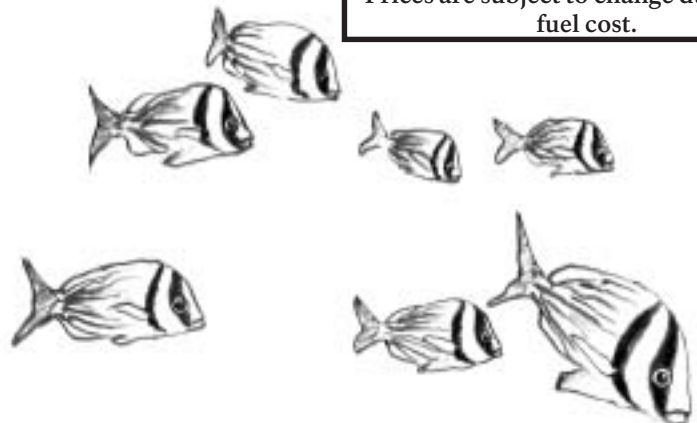
By Phone: 305-230-1100

By email: dive970@aol.com

Prices are subject to change due to high fuel cost.

Baynanza Events

visit www.miamidade.gov/baynanza for details on this month-long celebration of Biscayne Bay's natural and human history



Family Fun Fests

Wild, Wild West!

January 2 — 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Git along, little dogie! Biscayne National Park is about as far east as one can get, but don't let that stop you from rounding up the sea cows, riding along on a seahorse and taking in an old-fashioned medicine show! Don't forget your cowboy hat!

Deeeeee-fense!

February 6 — 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Football season may be over, but plants and animals practice their defensive maneuvers all year long. Learn how they use spikes, shells, teeth and more to make sure that they don't become a predator's next meal.

Digging Into the Past

March 6 — 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Celebrate Florida Archaeology Month and Florida Statehood Day with a look at how archaeologists use science to learn about Florida's early residents and how they lived their everyday lives.

Bird Brains

April 3 — 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.



This Family Fun Fest is for the birds! Discover some of the hazards of migration, practice your beginning birdwatching skills, pick apart an owl pellet and come nose-to-beak with one of Florida's most popular birds.

Family Fun Fests

(continued)

Hurricanes:

More than Meets the Eye

May 1 — 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.



Here comes hurricane season! Test your skills in a Preparedness Relay as you gather your hurricane supplies, make your own wind speed detector, and take a shot at becoming a TV weather reporter!

Discovery Series

Gifts from the Sea

January 12 — 7:30 p.m.

Gary Bremen

Biscayne National Park

Winds, waves, currents and tides deliver an amazing diversity of objects to South Florida's shores. From rainforest seeds to Ukrainian vodka bottles to life-saving medicines, Park Ranger Gary Bremen shares insights into flotsam and jetsam, both common and rare.

Blood-feeding Behavior in Mosquitoes

February 9 — 7:30 p.m.

George O'Meara

Florida Medical Entomology Lab

Mosquitoes are the bane of every outdoors enthusiast in South Florida. For 35 years, Dr. George O'Meara has been studying these annoying, and potentially life-threatening, insects. Join him for a look at mosquito natural history, the diseases they transmit, and how efforts to control their populations, impact our environment.

Discovery Series

(continued)

Coming Full Circle: The Native Peoples of Biscayne Bay

March 9 — 7:30 p.m.

Brenda Lanzendorf

Biscayne National Park

The discovery of the Miami Circle in 1998 led to a surge of interest in the native peoples of Biscayne Bay. What were they like? What did they do? With the Circle under study for inclusion in the National Park System, many questions remain a mystery. Archaeologist and *Discovery Series* favorite Brenda Lanzendorf looks at other evidence of what life on Biscayne Bay was like 2000 years ago.

Return of the Native

April 13 — 7:30 p.m.

Keith Bradley

Institute for Regional Conservation



South Florida is one of the most biologically diverse regions in North America, harboring about 1,400 species of native plants. Yet the area has witnessed alarming changes, and many of our unique natural habitats are virtually gone, or are fast disappearing. Research biologist Keith Bradley discusses the advantages of native plants at home and in the wild.

Discovery Series lectures held
Wednesdays at
Coconut Grove Sailing Club,
2990 South Bayshore Drive,
Miami.

In the Gallery

Living Waters:

Aquatic Preserves of Florida

Photographs by Clyde Butcher
Through January 17, 2005

Meet the Artist:

December 10, 6:30 p.m.

“Art follows your heart, and my heart is in Florida,” says Clyde Butcher, one of America’s premiere black and white photographers. In honor of the 30th Anniversary of the Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve, he pays homage to Florida’s Aquatic Preserves through stunning large-format images.

Aqua Munde

Mixed Media by Aleta Todisco
February 4 — May 1, 2005



Meet the Artist:

February 4, 7:00 p.m.

Water is life, and it bestows meaning to our existence — a meaning that cannot be weighed or categorized, but can be communicated through art. The water that comprises the majority of Biscayne National Park inspired Aleta Burge Todisco’s *Aqua Munde*. The resulting works are bold and vibrating, not transcribing a scene as much as translating a feeling.

Exhibits in the Dante Fascell Visitor Center Gallery are made possible by the South Florida National Parks Trust through grants from the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the First National Bank of South Florida.”

In the Gallery

Treasured Places

Panoramic Photographs
by Brian Call
May 6 — August 14, 2005



Meet the Artist:

May 6, 7:00 p.m.

Brian Call blends art and technology by piecing together digital images to create a single seamless panoramic mosaic. He hopes his photographs of the National Parks and Preserves of South Florida will inspire the emotional and spiritual connection with these areas that he feels are so urgently needed for their protection and preservation.



Experience Your America



The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Other Programs

Grant Livingston In Concert

Sunday, March 20 — 1:30 p.m.

Grant Livingston, Miami’s “Historian-in-Song” writes songs that reflect his love for South Florida’s land and waters. Armadillos, barnacles, trains and pioneers populate the stories they tell, while history, environment and a gentle sense of humor are common threads running through them.

Canoe and Kayak Trips

Second and Fourth Saturday of
Every Month January 10 – April 24
9:00 a.m. to Noon

Sneak up a tree-lined channel to spot a crocodile, or listen for the whoosh of a manatee surfacing for air on a two-hour journey over seagrass meadows and along the park’s mangrove-fringed shoreline. Bring water, sunscreen, a hat, sunglasses, insect repellent, sturdy shoes you don’t mind getting wet and lots of positive energy. Provide your own boat, or rent one at the discount rate of \$15.95. Call 305-230-1100 to reserve a canoe or kayak.

Interested in Volunteering?

Conduct fish and turtle surveys, provide visitor information at the visitor center, give lighthouse tours, assist with filing and computer work, and more. Call 305-230-1144, x3035 for details.